REMARKS

By way of the foregoing amendment, Claims 10, 11, 24, 25, 26 and 44 have been amended to delete the multiple dependencies and/or to place the claims into better U.S. format.

It is requested the application be examined on the basis of the claims as amended.

Entry of the instant Preliminary Amendment and favorable consideration on the merits are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning the subject application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: _____
Charles F. Wieland III
Registration No. 33,096

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(919) 941-9240

Date: October 9, 2003